

PARANOIZE

#20

FREE

IN NEW ORLEANS

\$1.00 ppd.

featuring interviews with:

FLESH PARADE

rat in a bucket

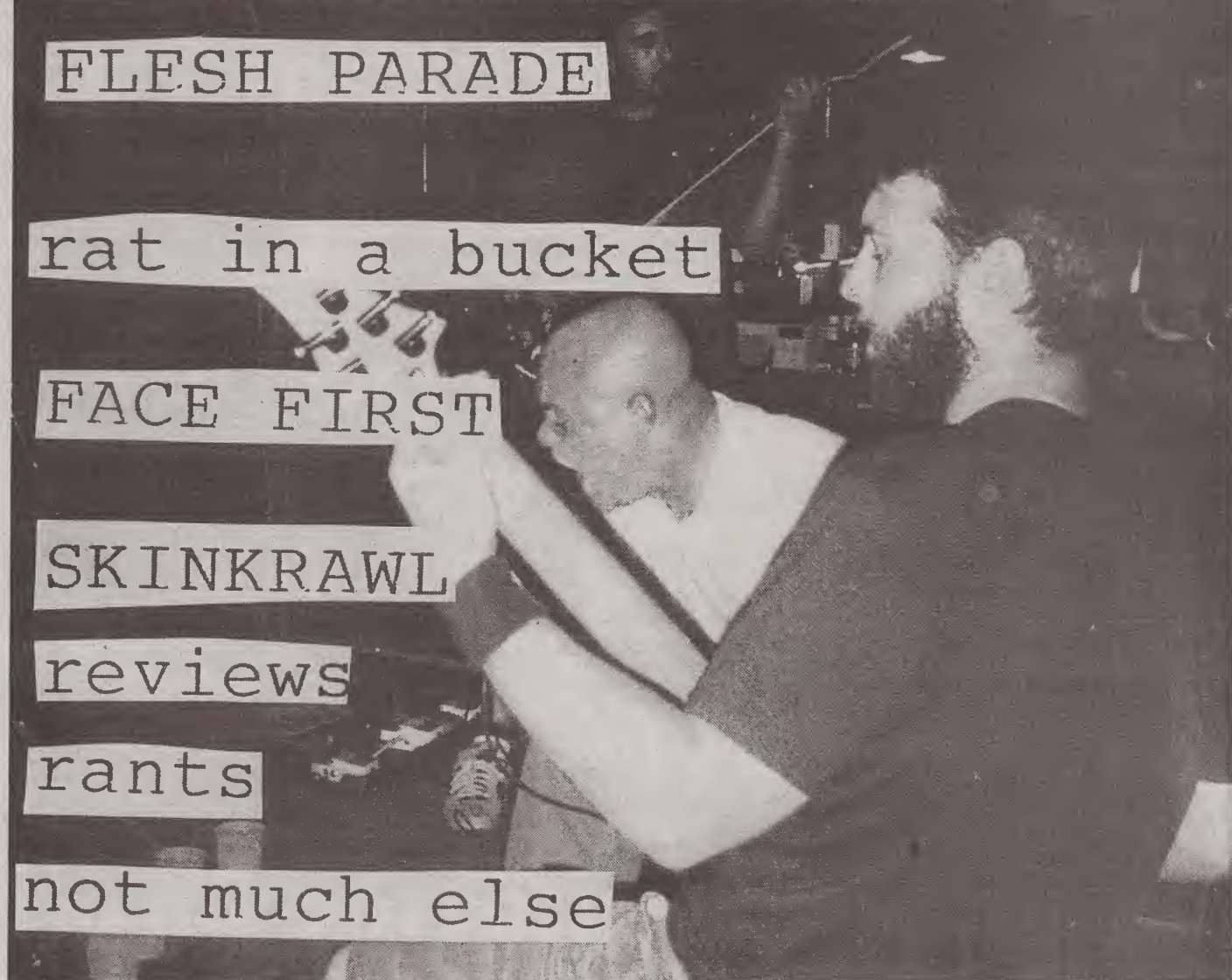
FACE FIRST

SKINKRAWL

reviews

rants

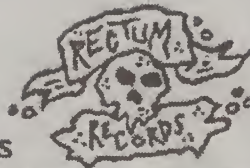
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Paranoize is a non-profit independent publication based in New Orleans, Louisiana covering metal, hardcore, sludge, grindcore, doom, stoner rock, and pretty much anything loud and noisy.

Bands and recording labels may send cassettes (home or studio recorded), vinyl, or compact discs (yes, we accept cdr's) for a guaranteed review. Keep in mind that the music reviews are only the opinion of the reviewer, and we are not here to kiss your ass. If the person reviewing your music doesn't like what you're doing, just suck it up and get on with your life. If you whine to us, we'll just make fun of you.

Music Reviews are also posted on the Paranoize website at:

www.geocities.com/paranoize where you can also get show listings, buy Paranoize Recordings releases online, and talk shit on our message board..

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Contributors to Paranoize #20:

Bobby: interviews, reviews, sloppy layout.

Michael D. Williams: reviews

The Human Kickstand: reviews

Angela: reviews

M.C. Bevis: Punk Rock Epitaph

SELECTED UPCOMING SHOWS:

July 23rd

Hoods/Jacknife/In Tomorrow's Shadow at Cypress Hall 7 P.M.

July 27th

Uptown O'Fays and more at Dixie Tavern 10 P.M.

July 28th

The Holy Mountain/ Cobra Noir/ Magrudergrind /A Hunger Artist/Rat in a Bucket at Banks St. Warehouse (End Of Banks) 7 P.M.

July 29th

Embrace Today, Since the Flood, Cannae, The Red Death, The Banner at Cypress Hall 7 P.M.

August 1st

The Street Dogs/Face First/The Briefs at Cypress Hall 7 P.M.

August 6th

Paranoize Presents: The Dead See/Finger Of God/Hooves at Dixie Tavern 10 P.M.

August 7th

Skit Kids/Ghidrah/Hundred Eyes at Banks St. Warehouse 7 P.M.

August 10th

Crisis/Losa at Cypress Hall 7 P.M.

August 16th

Soilent Green/A Perfect Murder/Into The Moat/Watch Them Die at Howlin' Wolf 9 P.M.

August 27th

rat in a bucket/Doomsday Sleepover/one more to be announced at Dixie Tavern 10 P.M.

August 29th

Bury Your Dead/SkinKrawl/In Tomorrow's Shadow at Cypress Hall 7 P.M.

September 4th

Peelander Z at Twiropa 9 P.M.

September 22nd

Flowers In The Attic/A Hunger Artist at Banks St. Warehouse 7 P.M.

This is NOT a comprehensive list of all events happening in New Orleans! Check out www.noladiy.org, www.nolaunderground.com, and www.dixietavern.com for up to date show listings, venue addresses, etc.

7/05/2005

Here it is.. in all it's black and white newsprint glory.... another rare issue of the, elusive Paranoize! Yep, the FREE issues are back.. and hopefully for good this time, as long as we can keep a steady flow of advertisers.

I wasn't able to squeeze as much in here as I'd hoped: when I gathered up all the material that I had and realized that I only had 16 pages to fit it all in, I had to cut back the 'Zine, Dvd and Live Review sections for this issue. They will make their grand return next issue!

I'd like to welcome The Human Kickstand, Angela and M.C. Bevis to the crew, and thank Michael D. Williams for his contributions as well. You'll be seeing a lot more from them in future issues. I'm proud to have an all New Orleans based staff this time around.

That's all I have to say for this issue. Please don't hesitate to contact me with comments and suggestions.

Sincerely,

Bobby Bergeron

editor, Paranoize 'Zine.

Thanks/hello to: Liz (for your eternal patience), Mark Breaux, Rat In A Bucket, Daisy, Sufferstream and everyone who came to the Paranoize Benefit Show, Jenn, Darrin, Alix and everyone at Dixie Tavern, Mike Williams, Jason at TerrorOptics, Hawg Jaw, Collapsar, A Hunger Artist, Deadbird, Sleeper Cell, Parabellum, Snake Oiler, Eyehategod (for existing!), Jay Branch, Angie Shlonk, Grant Funk Railroad, Face First, Severin Lagarde and the rest of my brothers in Ironworkers Local 58, all of the labels and bands that sent stuff to review (too many to squeeze in this little thanks list), Nolaunderground.com, You.

PARANOIZE RECORDINGS:

Icepick Revival/Hawg Jaw split live cdr

Live sets by Icepick Revival (innovative and chaotic metal from Lafayette, LA) and Hawg Jaw (New Orleans sludgecore) recorded live on KSCL in Shreveport, LA \$3.00 ppd.

Various Artists: Trying Is The First Step Towards Failure compilation cdr

Tunes from Dulac Swade, Demise, Billy Dirt Cult, Bloodred Bacteria, Bug, Seventh Gate, Eat A Bag Of Dicks, Hostile Apostle, Encompass And Stalemate, Suburban Terror Project, The Pallbearers, Blueprint For Disaster, Suppression, Goatsblood, Catholicon, Hanging Rotten and Low Drag. \$3.00 ppd.

Goatsblood/Suppression split live cdr

Live sets from Goatsblood (sludge/grind from Vancouver, Canada) and Suppression (Roanoke, VA noise/grind) \$3.00 ppd.

check or money order payable to Bobby Bergeron or order online via Pay Pal at www.geocities.com/paranoize.

Coming soon!

Another compilation featuring tunes from Catholicon, Hawg Jaw, Hooves, Collapsar, Apartment 213, Face First, rat in a bucket, Parabellum and more!

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FLESH PARADE

The legendary Flesh Parade, after years of reformation rumors, have finally started rehearsing again. Guitarist Rene Perez explains the band's hiatus and their record label, Mainstay Recordings.

So is it official? Is Flesh Parade actually jamming again? Why the long hiatus?

Yes it is official. We started rehearsing again on February 18, 2005 and have continued to so since. The reason we fell apart was simply because we didn't have a place to rehearse. Also Shane our bassist joined the Army and we didn't have a replacement. Shortly after Todd got married and went back to school. I (Rene) had (2) kids and got engaged and Jason recently found God and joined the church. So we all were pretty busy with our personal lives.

Was there a lot of rust to work out after being inactive for so long?

We played for 2 hours and did almost every song including some really old ones. We messed up the first song, but then nailed it the second time. It was interesting. We didn't know if we could do it anymore, but after the first song everybody was smiling and happy to be back again. Needless to say these songs whipped our asses.

Will you be hitting the stage again anytime soon?

We will play live again. Definitely for a CD release party at least. As far as out of state shows are concerned, we'll have to see what is offered and if we can make it. It's too early to say at this point exactly when though.

What's this I hear about a record label you're starting, and a documentary on Flesh Parade being filmed?

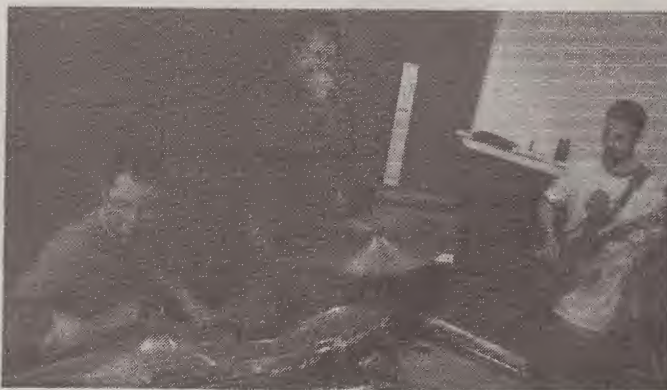
Yes, I have started work on our own label, Mainstay Recordings to release the new Flesh Parade full length. Right now the website for the label is being worked on by Teufel's Tomb. It should be up in about 2 weeks. We will feature an episode of the documentary every Friday which will keep track of our progress rehearsing, writing, recording, hanging out, etc all the way up to the release of the CD and our first show in over five years. There will also be interviews cut in between the rehearsal footage. They will simply be called, "Grind Docs" for short and will be seen exclusively on www.mainstayrecordings.com. The documentary is being filmed by our long time friend and new filmmaker, Brian Kaz for his company Reyo-San Pictures. www.reyo-sanpictures.com is where you can see his work.

Will Mainstay Recordings be strictly for Flesh Parade material, or will you be releasing other bands' stuff as well?

We hope that we will be able to release other artists if the label does well. We will start out with a few artists that are in our area. Not all the releases will be Grindcore or Metal necessarily. I will have some of my side projects on the label for everyone to check out.

What happened to your record deal with Relapse? Will you be seeking another label?

We simply had a deal for the Kill Whitey CD and 7" and nothing else. They chose not to pursue anything further with us because we simply were unable to tour. If we would have done anything else with Relapse it would have been at our expense for the recording. We decided to start our own label since we have to pay for the recording expenses anyway, but at least we can release our material at our leisure and wouldn't have to worry about touring if we couldn't.



Who will be playing bass for you now?

C.J. Pierce our original bass player and guitarist for Drowning Pool offered to play on our recording. We will most likely have a live bassist for shows since his tour schedule for Drowning Pool is pretty hectic. In May he will be in town to record and film a video for submission to MTV and Fuse.

If you could be a member of any 80's metal band in their prime, who would it be?

I guess I would have to say Metallica. I think anyone who plays metal at some point loved Metallica. I still listen to Ride, Puppets and Justice today. I really want to cover Dyer's Eve and put a grind twist to it, but it's hard to convince our drummer to do covers live.

What do you think of the current New Orleans scene?

To be honest with you I haven't been able to keep up with it at all since we stopped playing. I hope to get us back into the scene again some time soon though.

Any final comments, suggestions, recipes, remedies, thank yous, fuck yous, etc.?

I'd like to thank Jason Tipton from Willowtip Records for all of his helpful advice with starting this label and trading also Billy Nocera from Razorback Records for trading.

www.mainstayrecordings.com

www.myspace.com/fleshparade

www.myspace.com/mainstayrecordings

rat in a bucket

Rat In A Bucket are, without a doubt, one of the most overlooked and underrated bands in the New Orleans area. Brutal, chaotic grindcore with lots of time changes, pummeling breakdowns and vocals ranging from guttural growls to pissed screams. This interview was done with guitarist Ramon Zelaya in April of 2005.

It's been awhile since I've interviewed y'all.... what have you been up to?

Well, each of us has had a sex change...twice, so we're each back to normal. I've decided to go back to school, but I don't think they accept 27-year-olds into the 4th grade. Keith is up to about 5'4", maybe 5'5", and that isn't changing anytime soon.

Lately your songs have been getting longer and some slower parts are popping up. What happened to the 30 second songs? Are you selling out?

I don't think we've sold out considering we're still fucking broke. Don't you get money when you sell out? I think for a while we were getting burned out on the short songs, we wanted to develop some parts more, go for a heavier feel; it seemed like a natural development in terms of progressing as a band. Now we're starting to write some quicker stuff again, and personally I've been longing for some short songs again. The process overall has been pretty gradual, I think.

In the past, Keith and Ramon were on vocals as well as Shaun; why did y'all decide to drop the backing vocals?

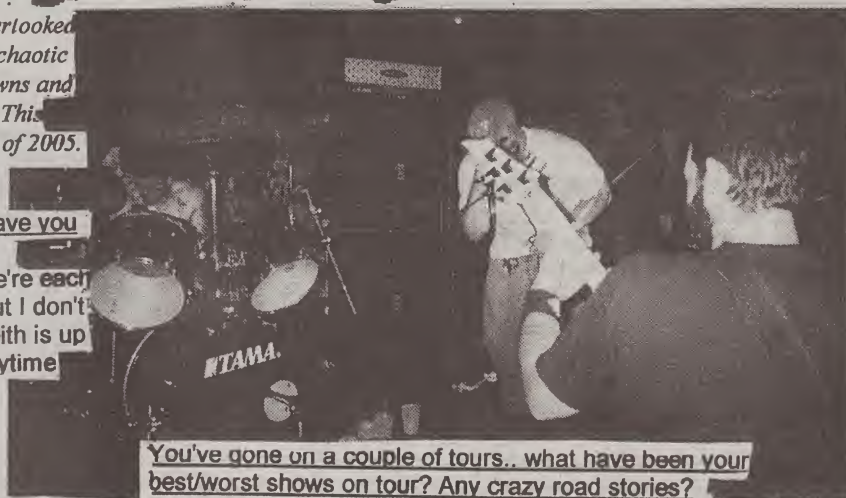
Okay, well there was nothing gradual about that, we stopped singing cold turkey. We just felt we needed to concentrate entirely on our instruments so the music would sound better. This shit is pretty hard to play. I do miss having all the backups, though, because they really added to the chaos of our sound, which I love. I think we've always just been about chaos. That seems evident when I notice some people just stare at us when we play like they don't get it.

What are your songs about?

I personally don't know. Shaun writes those lyrics, which are pretty cryptic, and when asked about it, he says they're about personal experiences. We may be printing lyrics for our next recording, it hasn't been decided yet.

What do you think of the current New Orleans scene? Any favorite/least favorite places to play?

The N.O. scene could be better. There's too small a population that enjoys heavy stuff, and that population is inconsistent in attending shows. Also, certain political aspects of this city (especially a shortage of proper venues, or venues that allow our kind of music) are prohibitive to the prosperity of heavy bands. But the few places we can and do play are great, and ones that suck have been shut down.



You've gone on a couple of tours.. what have been your best/worst shows on tour? Any crazy road stories?

The show and after-show party in Waukegan, Illinois were awesome. Houston was ridiculously bad, we played for 2 guys, who were slamming nonetheless. In North Carolina a tent was almost set on fire in the wake of a cigar smoke-filled, cheap scotch-saturated waking nightmare. There were almost a few auto accidents in Nashville. There was an androgynous individual in Baltimore...transsexual? Transvestite? Hermaphrodite? We weren't getting close enough to find out for sure. But nothing CRAZY, nothing too traumatic that a few hundred cc's of Thorazine couldn't fix.

How has your "Ugliness And Failure" cd been received? What's with the long bass note at the end of "Beating The Path"?

We've gotten a couple of killer reviews from folks out of state, and good comments from the locals. Nobody's thrown any copies back at us as we've played, therefore: well-received. That bass note...we're searching for the frequency that causes immediate involuntary bowel evacuation to anyone who hears it. Again, no copies have been thrown back at us, therefore: the search goes on.

What do you have planned for the near future?

Write more songs, sign under a label or two, record more stuff, die in a bus accident.

Why do you hang out at the Dervish?

Because it's whirling. Because none of us has any self-respect. I can't tell you the real reason.

If you could be a member of any 80's metal band in their prime, who would you be?

Troy wants to be Bob Seger. We all want to be Cliff Burton.

Any final comments, suggestions, recipes, remedies, etc?

Have plenty of water before going out drinking; it minimizes dehydration and reduces the symptoms of hangovers. We'll soon be posting barbecue recipes at www.ratinabucket.com. Thanks for the interview. That is all.

www.ratinabucket.com
www.myspace.com/ratinabucket

FACE FIRST

Face First plays fast, pissed punk/hardcore that doesn't let up for a second. Their "Ignorant Assholes" 7-inch is out on Rat Town Records and has offended the ears of many sensitive music critics. This interview was done with vocalist/guitarist Bobby Last in April of 2005.

Face First has been around since '98 or '99.... care to give a little history on the band?

We've been around since November 1st, 1998 ...I was in Backwash for about four years went on a U.S.. tour and pretty much played our last show the last night Monaco Bob's had one, Halloween 98'. The next day I got a phone call from some guy who heard our band on a local compilation that he ordered from MMR while he was in the navy in Japan. Sorry about the run on. Anyway, that was how I met Dave Nelson. He bought a drum set immediately, I called Kevin Lomax to get Mikey's number (they previously played in Anti together)and then there was Rusty...if you don't know Rusty then he doesn't owe you money...he played in The Penetrations and had a lot of energy but he had problems that I couldn't solve for him so now he's gone...we tried a lot of bass players, even Mikey played bass for a long time...I knew Mark Breaux since he was about 14...so I went to his house and asked him if he would play bass and he said he really wanted to play guitar, but I told him that he could play bass until we got some one else to and then he could replace me on guitar... it stayed that way for two years until mark decided to become an electrician...and there are some other discrepancies about being in love with a girl and spending quality time or something like that but he claims it was just the job (yeah right). He quit and we took our good friend Robert on tour with us and then we had Dave's navy friend play bass and then after that Mark Breaux realized that he wanted play music. So Dave went back in the navy and we thought we were pretty much fucked until I saw Mark Antee at Checkpoints one night and now as long as we clear everything we do with Mark's wife we might get to play some shows...that's it in a nut shell...

How would you describe your sound?

I don't...some people say its like Filth...some say D.R.I., some have even said Bad Religion...I always say if you know a band's influences, you know their sound. I like all those bands and a lot more, but the bands we have in common are bands like Slayer, D.R.I., Poison Idea, Metallica, Black Flag, Circle Jerks, Filth, Strychnine, Motorhead, Pennywise, etc.

You recently released a 7" on Rat Town Records..how did you get hooked up with that?

Dulac Swade. I loved that band and they never play anymore...anyway they took us to Jacksonville, Florida where we played the Truckstop magazine show and we met Dan there...Dan played in Ring Worm and Powerball and is currently playing for the Negative Saints...he liked us and asked if we wanted to put out the 7"

What do you think of the current New Orleans scene? Favorite bands? Favorite/Least favorite places to play?

I don't know if you'd call it a scene, but I like to play the Dixie, the Howling Wolf and Checkpoints...I've never had a really good experience at any other venue...

Weren't y'all banned from playing at Dixie Tavernne for a little while? What happened there?

We've been banned from there three separate times for several months because of fights with management, bartenders and owners...I'll leave it at that.

What do y'all have planned for the near future?

We record a new album April 23rd of this year ...it will be a cd and it will be full length, about 40 songs...I don't know the release date but I will have tracks for any comps that are offered to me after that.



Are any of you involved in side-projects?

Mark Breaux has a side project with Mikey called the Dusk Rapist and another with our friend Grant which doesn't have a name yet but its some evil metal and I got a cover band that I sing in just for fun called Dustin Ngyuen...we play a slew of punk rock classics including cover from local punk bands who no longer exist (Second Hand, Bring Your Own Tomatoes, Backwash, the Pests)along with Black Flag, Circle Jerks Descendants, the Dead Milkmen, Glue Gun, a slew of shit. Oh and Mark Antee's side project is Face First.

If you could be a member of any 80's metal band in their prime, who would it be?

Iron Maiden for me and for Antee probably Slayer and Metallica.

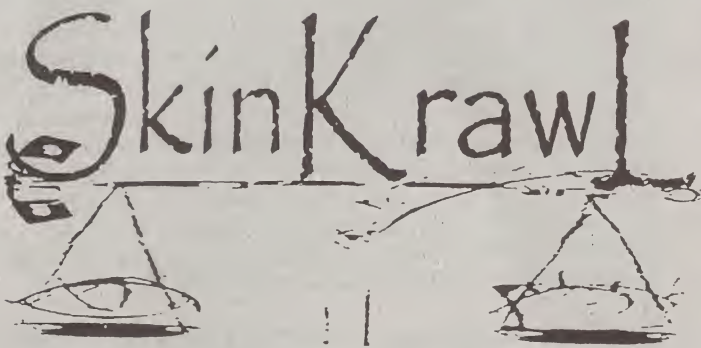
What have you been listening to lately?

Bring Your Own Tomatoes...I cant speak for everyone else...

Any final comments, suggestions, recipes, remedies, thank yous, fuck yous, etc.?

Come out and see us play a show and for god sake what happened to people slamming at a show? You guys are all spoiled in this town...if you lived in the sticks and had to drive an hour or two once a month to get to a show then you would understand how good you guys got it...take advantage of the scene that you have and it will grow.

<http://www.myspace.com/facefirstignorantassholes>



SkinKrawl have been abusing the N.O. area with their brand of down-tuned metalcore (in one form or another) for the past 7 years or so. In this interview, vocalist and founding member Jay Branch talks about the latest incarnation of the band, Cypress Hall, and violence at shows.

You've gone through a few line-up changes over the years...who are the current members of SkinKrawl?

SkinKrawl is: Shane Troxler (guitar), James Kelly (bass), Justin Perez (drums), Rick Devenney (guitar), and Jay Branch (vocals).

Why did you decide to keep the name SkinKrawl even though you're the sole original member? Do people ever give you any shit for it?

The idea of SkinKrawl will forever be to create aggressive music and translate its violent nature into a live show that is an exact reflection of the intensity created by the music and lyrics. No matter who remains in the band, that idea and mission has always and will always be the same. The members creating the music may have changed over the years, but what this band as an entity does will never change. Once people learn to forget the faces and concentrate on the music and its message, they quickly realize the central focus: it's not who you are or how you look, but the art that is created.

How would you describe your sound?

Aggressive, hateful metal with a penchant for down-tuned groove and a diverse range of vocal styles. Music that feeds off negative emotion and has no qualms about delivering a destructive message.

How has your recent 3-song demo been received? Any label interest?

Reviews of the demo have been mostly positive, which is what an unsigned band hopes for. We also just recorded a new track called "With Ease" with John Tyree, who has worked with bands such as Slayer and Stone Temple Pilots. We've also had great response from this recording, which we think represents our sound and attitude the best. Tracks from the demo, as well as "With Ease", are available for listening on our MySpace and Purevolume pages.

You have a very violent live show... has anyone (in the band or audience) ever been seriously injured?

Haha, I think you would have to keep a regular section in Paranoize on "SkinKrawl Injuries" to fully answer this question. Here's a sampling (both for the band and crowd) from our last local show: one broken nose, one finger in a splint, two swollen and blackened eyes, two forehead gashes, and lots of extremely bruised bodies.

You've recently taken over booking at Cypress Hall... how is that going?

Cypress has done very well. We as a band run the venue, and it's given us an opportunity to meet a lot of the new faces in the scene and try to help the younger bands find a home to express their music. We have also brought in many touring bands, as well as giving other promoters in the area a place to host all ages events.

What do you think of the current New Orleans scene?

Favorite bands? Favorite places to play?

Cypress has reinvigorated me as to the local scene. I find inspiration in a lot of the younger bands, who simply play for the joy of music. They have no worries other than playing the show and having a good time. Some of my favorite locals include In Tomorrow's Shadow, Hello Asphalt, and The Almighty Hamn. Our favorite places to play are definitely The Howlin Wolf and Cypress, the Wolf for the sound and Cypress for the crowd.

What have been your favorite and least favorite SkinKrawl shows?

My least favorite shows are always the ones on tour when local bands drop or promoters don't flyer. We always treat out of town bands with the utmost respect, so we ask for that same treatment when we're on the road. My favorite shows are always the ones that have a decent amount of people who have no idea what to expect from us. Those wide eyes halfway through our opening song make it all worthwhile.



If you could be in any 80's metal band in their prime, who would it be?

Metallica-their attitude in the 80's was so awesome. They didn't worry about MTV, videos, or being on the radio; they knew their songs and live show would attract a following. I recently saw their documentary DVD; it was so amazing how their attitudes have changed from 20 years ago. They are now 40-year-old men arguing over their hurt feelings with some attitude coach/therapy guy. One word-downfall.

Any final comments, suggestions, recipes, remedies, etc.?

Much appreciation to Paranoize for the continued support of the local scene. Please check out SkinKrawl and shows at Cypress Hall, as well as local shows in general.

www.myspace.com/skinkrawl

punk rock epitaph

I remember so much from my youth, too much sometimes...

I remember the alienation, the paranoia, the distrust and misgivings of a world which seemed only to delight in the destruction of a future that was rightfully mine.

I remember feeling alive, and yet hopelessly fragile, strikingly contrasted to the usual cliché of youthful invincibility.

I remember being alternately loathed and loved for my values, or lack thereof.

I remember the police bringing dogs into my school, sniffing away at my rights...

I remember feeling unable to be an active participant in what was generally accepted as society and setting out to find something I felt I could be a part of.

I remember the first day I found that something, that dysfunctional family that made me feel at home...

And I miss it, in a melancholy sort of way

A time when having a mohawk or, God forbid, dyeing your hair primary colors elicited a harsh beating from any of the opposing subcultural clichés of the era. At constant war with just about everyone you came into contact with, muttered epithets and curt looks of disgust. You'd always know when a thumping was going to go down, there always was the ever-present van or truck full of idiots circling the block. Blasting their Boston or some other overproduced garbage on cheap 6x9 speakers. Bellowing taunts, casting aspersions as to our sexual orientation, or our parents genetic makeup and relation to each other... I don't think anyone who wasn't there will ever know just how dangerous it was, just how much of the fear we suffered. Just because we looked crazed. Rabid. Different.

Staying up way past our bedtimes discovering how to drink, smoke, dose, shoot, snort, crush, swallow, lick, suck, screw... Screw it all, loud fast rules, locals only, fuck shit up, support your scene, resist censorship, beat the bastards.

Boots, braces, bleach, the buzz of hair clippers thrumming away in someone's garage or their parents' modern kitchen. Hoping their mom didn't come home early from her latchkey second shift to find hair sheared in hideous clumps everywhere, her oh-so-special child looking like one of those horrible kids in the news. Or on that one episode of Quincy, M.D last Wednesday at 8:00 p.m... Wasn't there a report in Newsweek about this new threat, this punk rock menace? I heard it happened to the Thompson boy down the block, and they had him put away for smoking a whole bag of acids. Half of the scene was in mental institutions, the other half escaping.

V.F.W. halls became our second homes, bordered by burned out buildings and railroad trestles, deep in the ghettos towards the East. Those old men let us in to have our adventures, our triumphs, our accidents. All without hassle, most of the time anyway. I guess it only makes sense that men who have seen the brutality of war would let us

have our gigs there, let us drink there, let us be. They always seemed to view us with a detached sense of disinterest, drinking their beer and cheap whiskey that we would steal when their backs were turned. Well, except maybe for that time when Spencer broke that mirror with his fist, or maybe the time Skylar set his face on fire while he was tripping. He was wailing like some kind of animal, flailing about in this grotesque way, demanding to be let into the bathroom to see his charred face. Or possibly the time we beat the hell out of those nazi skinheads, descending on them quick and furious, the whole room going violent all at once in their direction. Slamming the doors on their shiny bald domes on the way out of the club for suckerpunching people in the pit. We DO take care of our own after all.

The metalheads hated the punks hated the preppies hated the goths hated the skinheads hated the hippies. Actually, we all hated the hippies...

Were you there the night that kid brought his grandma to the show, I think it was 7 Seconds and Verbal Abuse at Franklin Ave., and she had a heart attack? I still remember her there, in the light rain, lying on the gravel, at the entrance to the club. Clutching chest, surrounded by punks, almost serene amidst the chaos closing ranks around her. Strange to see, this refuse of humanity as we were, girls crying and guys offering help in our own freakish ways. Then the ambulance roared up, scaring the shit out of everyone. Two E.M.T.'s grabbed her, and sped off into the neighborhood dark just past the parking lot. Still can't figure out how it happened or how it turned out.

One thing's for sure though...I know that the next morning Dave borrowed every cent that he could, along with Deb's Volvo, put in the worn cassette of Damaged that was ever present. Blasted through Uptown streets in search of cheap Mickey's Big Mouths and nickel bags of dirt weed copped from some old black guy named "Midnight" near the Mississippi river. We did that more often than not upon waking most days, that is unless we were at my mothers' house on Saturday mornings still frying from the previous nights' trip, waiting for Pee-Wee's Playhouse to send us out in grand fashion. Blaring the DK's during the commercials, making my little sister scream and swear she was going to tell Mom about the weed we were shooting up all over the place.

Getting trapped in grain silos on the river past the docks, in the middle of nowhere on some fruitless quest, on hopped trains moving way too fast for comfort, in the back of squealing squad cars, worse yet, some rich girls' bathroom when Daddy comes home early to check on his little girl.

Crashing every party, even the one's thrown by friends. Especially the ones thrown by friends. Family dog in the microwave, refrigerator sacked and pillaged, leaving liquor and medicine cabinets with compromised security. More still, locked in someone's closet dark with other inebriated casualties, peaking and freaking. I couldn't find the walls, and from what English I could make out, neither could anyone else... That was the night Randy took something like 30 hits of everything on top of everything else, terrorized us with civil war swords and table legs, then took us out for doughnuts and coffee. We watched the clouds stretch across the sky in long winding trails of blues and greys and ate our doughnuts in silent deference. And nary a cop in sight...

Driving headlong into oblivion in a beater Gran Torino or just to L.S.U. campus to score a bag of smoke, Tiger Tacos' expelled violently out the passenger side, too big of a hit man, too big. Screaming obscenities in the early morning out of duct taped windows... We knew everything sucked, as we put it, and had to find ways to alleviate the crushing mediocrity and boredom, so we did.

Laughing... Everything was funny in its' way, everything was chaos, everything seemed infinite... Girls in the slam pit, we suicide slam anyway, someone will help you up, don't worry... Watch out for that guy though, crazy fucker wore his spurs into the pit and it looks like he's gonna stage dive. You see this one gash here? That's gonna leave a mark, stings too...

Fuck the pigs, their system, all authority, your god, this country, and of course, you. Fuck it all.

Man, I'd swear Raymond dosed me in my sleep last night with at least 1000 mcg. of blotter L.S.D., I awoke in psychedelic frenzy, to a raging punk rock house party. Peanut butter on the walls, cigarette carcasses on the floor, broken glass everywhere of course, all replete with a soundtrack courtesy of the Butthole Surfers. And by the way, who was the asshole who shaved a 666 on the dog's head? Probably the same comedian that dosed the cat with... Something. Poor bastard still hasn't come from behind the armoire. It was like that all the time at the Armpit, but then every city had at least one "punk house" as they were called, and they were all the same.

Oh shit, someone called the cops, guess Catch-22 shouldn't have played "Fuck the neighbors" quite so early in the set... Strange part is, we wound up taking pictures with the pigs after they shut us down. "My wife's not gonna believe this, real punk rockers!". Speaking of which, did you hear that the pigs thumped the crap out of Kenny last night? Something about that giant Corrosion of Conformity skull painted on the hood of his car... It was right near where the Misfits got busted for robbing graves down near the interstate, I think. Dude, only six people who showed up for that Scratch Acid show, and the band was absolutely terrifying! Sick man, it was sick. Broken down in a graffitied VW. Bug on the outskirts of town... Screw it, walk home, call it even. Hoping against hope that you didn't get jumped, or hassled by the man, or even worse slog home in a torrential downpour...

Pizza boxes, cigarette packs, hair product boxes, hair, rolling papers, half empty beers, contraceptives, old crumpled gig flyers, underwear, a pair of boots and your best friend, all heaped on your bedroom floor, in no particular order.

Bad influences, bad kids, bad times, bad vibes... Bad Brains on the turntable, forces me to bounce off the walls, trashing my room, flyers fulfilling their namesake in my wake. Or better yet, trashing YOUR room in a youthful display of wild abandon and punk rock insanity. Ah, just tell your parents, if they are still married, that I did it, they always think it was me anyway... The quintessential bad influence. They said they didn't serve our kind in there, so we quickly exited... Said something about us stealing cigarettes... (We were). Nothing good on the radio. Ever. Buy more vinyl. Collector's editions, limited pressings, signed and numbered, handscreened covers. The search for the perfect t-shirt. Living on mac & cheese, dying from too much Top Ramen. No school, save for that fabled school of hard knocks. The bastard children of Reaganomics, raised under an atomic threat. So anyway, she's not really mine, nobody is really anybody's here, you know? What are you doing tonight, by the way? Wanna hang out and listen to records and get loaded? My Mom is never home and I've got some pills...

Shit, we're outta beer, bum me a dollar... No, strike that, make it two cuz I gotta get into the show later unless I can sneak in of course. Just lick the stamp they give you and transfer it to someone else, just make sure to do it while the ink is still wet.. When we got to the show, it was packed, people everywhere! Didn't know the Virul Nihilis were this popular... Shit, I didn't know this many people were in the scene in the first place. It's getting to where everyone has a mohawk now...

Wasn't that guy a metalhead last week? And when did Marc become a skinhead? And where did those Goths come from? I couldn't cheat the stamp at the show and I didn't have the balls to rush the door... Jessica was working, and she could definitely kick my ass! At least I got to buy some stickers from their roadies outside... I just hope my mom believes me about the broken lamp. I swear I'll never let crazy Tommy in my house ever again, at least not on so much angel dust. Bad idea, having a party at 2:00 a.m. anyway.

No values, no Nazis', no bogarts, no surrender, no rules, no fascist U.S.A., no future, no more...

It was one fist in the air, one middle finger pointed in all directions. Flailing wildly against everything acceptable, everything wholesome and pure. Thumbing our collective noses to convention, moral majority, to society in general. A form of dire communication that all was not well, in their land of promise, that their children were dissatisfied with what was being left for them. Creating a state of mind and projecting it outward in the most forceful, unavoidable manner possible. A pox, a chancre on the lip of American moral majority, toxic and ugly to admit to. It was a systematic removal of pre-conditioned negative dogmatic mechanisms. A self-imposed exile of sorts, save for the others' just like you. Just as the hippies failed to do, but without the trappings of self-importance, of hubris. We were trying to apply force to relieve pressure, paradoxically enough it worked for a little while...

We were doing something important, although I can't remember exactly what that was...

Start a band, start a fanzine, start a record label, start a music club, start booking bands, start a revolution, start a life, not just an existence.

Anyway, we're almost all gone, my dysfunctional family and I, my old school punk rock brothers and sisters. Moved on, passed away, dried up, sold out, bought in, broke down. Fading into the stuff of legend, expose' books, documentaries, websites, loving remembrances in fanzines. Some of us are still here, although we don't talk as much as we used to, or at all... Guess sometimes too much is enough. All I know is that I had fun, some of the best in my life, and I'm still here. And I know that things were just different then, what happened in that time could never happen again. No matter how much the mall hawks ready-made punk gear, the prefab radio station squawks about the new boy-band cum rebellious youth gone wrong, the Mtv gushes over the new batch of recycled riffs and postures and politics, the truth is it's over. The climate is different, the ruptured innocence washed away as well as the very real danger. A fair amount of people I know don't admit to being there, some just try to forget, cast it away as youthful indiscretion and peer pressure... But me? I'd never trade those days, but then I'd never go back...

Some things are best left done, some things better left to the past...

So anyway, what was I talking about?

I can't remember...

M. C. Bevis
New Orleans, La.
2005

MUSIC REVIEWS

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Abhorred

Wallowing In Utter Chaos

Not Common-www.notcommonrecords.com

These are possibly some of the sickest vocals I've ever heard. Intense, blackened death metal, with a bit of sludge thrown in for good measure (track 5, "Bearer of Guilt", reminds me a LOT of Iron Monkey). For the most part, this is blast beats and a huge wall of noise with insane vocals. Check this out! (Bobby Bergeron)

Adolf Satan

s/t

Bestial Onslaught-www.bestialonslaught.com

Ex-members of Anal Cunt pounding out mid-paced hardcore-inspired sludge while Larry Lifeless (Upsidedown Cross, Kilslug) provides insane drunken poetry. Remember how fucking amazing they were when they played at Dixie Tavern? Of course you didn't...you weren't there. 10 fucking people showed up (among those Matt and Sam from Mangina and the long-haired guitarist for Scrotesque). What a loser you are. (Bobby Bergeron)

Annihilation Time

II

Manic Ride-www.manicriderecords.com

Fuck yeah! Black Flag meets Deep Purple is the best way I can describe this band. (I've also heard that they sound like B'last, but I've never heard them because I grew up on the West Bank, making me an uncultured rube.) They played a VERY last minute show at Dixie Tavern one night, and I happened to go just to grab a beer after school and talk to Jenn about some booking stuff. Howie (from The Pallbearers/Reason Of Insanity) shows up and convinced me to stay and check this band out, (and offered me whiskey) so I did and I liked them enough to buy a cd from them. You should buy a cd too. Howie might even offer you whiskey. Buy it and find out. (Bobby Bergeron)

Anodyne/Defcon 4

split 7"

Ammonia Records-www.ammoniarecords.com

Anodyne play noisy metal. Purely chaotic with pissed screams.

Defcon 4 play spastic punk/hardcore; like putting Black Flag in a blender. Amazing!

What a great split! (Bobby Bergeron)

Bleed For Me

Composition

SinKlub-www.sinklub.com

From Buffalo, NY comes Bleed For Me, a metallic hardcore band that isn't afraid to experiment with samples, effects, and various percussion in their music. Why don't more bands do this? This is kind of like Refused "The Shape Of Punk To Come" as recorded by Hatebreed. Good stuff. (Bobby Bergeron)

Bloodstains

A Darker Shade Of Black

Ammonia Records-www.ammoniarecords.com

Overlooking the lame band name, this is Boston area working class, hard drinking, down and out street metal/punk with logs of sing-a-long gang choruses and skinhead rock and roll riffing. This isn't overwhelmingly original, but then again this type of music ain't supposed to be. Tinges of Agnostic Front and maybe a bit of Motorhead here and there/ as well as some melody creeping in to put the final icing on the coffin... or nails in the cake.. or something like that. I'm digging this a lot; great band to see live I'd bet the farm on. Not "Oi" per se, but Americanized turf war rumbling tunes that could very well be the soundtrack to someone gettin' they jaw broke. (Michael D. Williams)

Brutally Frank

She'll Bleed 7"

Wee Rock-www.weerockrecords.com

This sucks... much in the same way The Cramps suck. (Bobby Bergeron)

Bury Your Dead

Cover Your Tracks

Victory Records-www.victoryrecords.com

I must confess that I have somewhat of a soft spot for this type of meathead hardcore. This band is one of the last few actual hardcore bands on the Victory roster (a label now overrun with whiny little emo bitch bands complete with white belts, swoops, and rolls of quarters up their asses). They remind me of a much better Hatebreed or at times Path of Resistance/Earth Crisis. The drumming is very precise and the overall product is impressive. My only gripe with this CD is pretty much my gripe with just about every modern hardcore/metalcore CD. There are too many God damn open - E chugga chuggas. Other than that, I can honestly say I enjoyed this CD. - THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Catholicon

The Death Throes Of Christianity (advance cdr)

www.fuckyourgod.com

One of the most underrated bands in Louisiana. Catholicon, from Baton Rouge, play intense black/death metal with vocals that sound like Satan himself. Keyboards are used to accent the guitars and give this a bit of an atmospheric feel. This will eventually be released on Baphomet Records (Kiljoy's label), but the first track, "Bible Black", will be available on the next Paranoize compilation. Be sure to check them out next time they play in New Orleans. You probably won't though, because you suck. (Bobby Bergeron)

Coliseum

God Damage

Manic Ride-www.manicriderecords.com

This is up and coming one of my new "they deserve more attention" bands, cos they are the cards on the table goddamn good heavy high energy R-O-C-K with punk seething from every crack and crevice. Crunchy like teeth rotting cereal gone bad in a good way. From Kentucky they are, and to drop something this cool from Louisville recently is fantastic (not to say L-ville doesn't have a shitload of other great bands, cos they do!) I know there's other stuff out by Coliseum, so someone get in touch with me at southernnihilismfront.com. I'm waiting... YOU PURCHASE THIS! (Michael D. Williams)

Conifer

s/t

Not Common

4 songs. 47 + minutes of music. Long sludgy, droning, layered, mostly instrumental songs, with screeches and growls popping up here and there. At times this reminds me of Isis, other times I think of Mass. Pretty good, but hard to listen to if you're not occupied with something else, like housework, or sitting in yahoo metal chat rooms calling people "posers". (Bobby Bergeron)



MUSIC REVIEWS

Coram Lethe
The Gates Of Oblivion

Crash Music

This is one of the better offerings to come as of late from Crash Music (whose track record in my opinion is spotty at best). Coram Lethe have managed to cough up an incredible offering. Fans of Man Must Die, Cephalic Carnage, Obituary, newer Cannibal Corpse and the like should enjoy this one. The musicianship is incredible as it brings a shapeshifting quality to the album. As the record progresses, there are times when you can't believe that it's the same band. One minute they're playing something akin to In Flames, then it resembles Cannibal Corpse, then goes way out into left field with a classical guitar piece, then goes into some Dream Theater sounding material. The vocals are no different (which much like the music makes it hard to explain). If I had to explain them I would say they sound like a cross between George Fisher and Tomas Lindberg.....but what do I know?.....I proudly give this CD the Mushroom Stamp.-THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Cursed
Two

Goodfellow Records-www.goodfellowrecords.com

Take the most brutal elements of Converge and Integrity, multiply them by a thousand, toss in some His Hero Is Gone, and Entombed's guitar tone and you have Cursed. Holy shit this is fucking amazing! Dark, heavy, brooding metalcore. If you're not a total moron, you'll buy this. (Bobby Bergeron)

Darkest Hour
Undoing Ruin

Victory Records-www.victoryrecords.com

What can I say about Darkest Hour that I haven't said before? They have the Swedish metal via American Metalcore sound locked down. There are hundreds of bands attempting this, but no one pulls it off the way Darkest Hour does. Epic, brutal thrash-y metal with downright amazing guitar work (as every Darkest Hour album has had) and harsh vocals that remind me of early Kreator. Yes, in one song he uses more of a melodic vocal style (the one that's on Headbanger's Ball right now).. but that's just ONE SONG. There's no good reason why you shouldn't own this. (Bobby Bergeron)

Darkthrone
Sardonic Wrath

Moonfog/The End 2004-www.moonfog.com At first, I was scared to review this album for fear that it might suck and tarnish my opinion of Darkthrone. I finally decided not to whine like a little va-jay-jay and popped it in. To my relief, it didn't suck. It was the same old Darkthrone that I've grown to know and love. Nothing too new or innovative, just raw and dirty black metal. They did incorporate a lot more slow parts that I don't remember being on the last album. All in all, this CD is definitely worthy of the Mushroom Stamp.- THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Days & Nights In The Skeleton Crew
Working Class Stiffs
Wooden Man Records

It's kinda hard to figure out the name of the band from the name of the album, but it don't matter 'cos this bites it. Nothing to see here, move along people. (Michael D. Williams)

Defcon 4
s/t

Ammonia Records-www.ammoniarecords.com

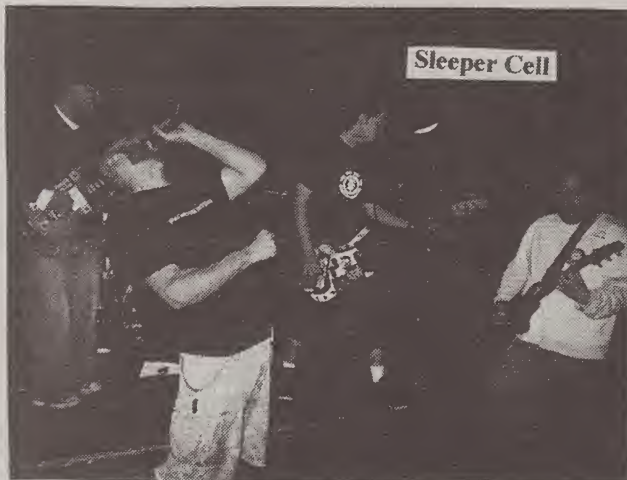
Rodent Popsicle Records-www.rodentpopsicle.com

Brutal punk/hardcore from Boston. Like Born Against jamming some Black Flag tunes or something. Excellent! They played at Dixie Tavern, opening for Adolf Satan. But you weren't there, so you wouldn't know how fucking incredible they are. Dick. (Bobby Bergeron)

Die Rotzz
Tugboat 7"

Die Slaughterhaus-www.dieslaughterhaus.com

Fun, snotty late 70's style punk from NOLA's own Die Rotzz. This kicks off with a "fuck you" to the now-closed hipster bar El Matador (titled "Goring El Matador"), which always made me smile when I'd hear it live, and now I can listen to it all I want! Rock! (Bobby Bergeron)



Dispatched
Terrorizer

Crash Music-www.crashmusicinc.com

Swedish metal with keyboards. Nothing really stands out here, and it kind of gets repetitive and boring after the 3rd song. Ugh. (Bobby Bergeron)

Doomsday Sleepover
advance cdr of upcoming 7"
www.myspace.com/doomsdaysleepover

5 short but sweet songs of noisy grindcore. This starts off with an all out bludgeoningly heavy sludge tune (ala Noothgrush) then bursts into a grind/thrash/hardcore chaotic fury for the duration of the e.p. Good stuff. They'll be playing here August 27th at Dixie Tavern with rat in a bucket and another band or 2. (Bobby Bergeron)

The Dreads

Driving The Atlantic Coast In Search Of Something Worth More Than Sand
thedreads4.cjb.net

Noisy chaotic music that teeters between D.E.P. style metalcore, and all out grind. This isn't particularly mind-blowing, but if you're looking for short, noisy grindy songs... The Dreads will give you a quick fix. (Bobby Bergeron)

Dukes Of Nothing
7"

Southern Lord Records-www.southernlord.com

People who know me know that the Dukes of Nothing are one of my favorite bands. They've since broken up and some members have formed The Capricorns (who really don't even compare). This is raw doom-y Motorhead style grime from the U.K. that'll give you chicken-skin like some bottom of the barrel homemade cokeblast and Wild Turkey nightmare come alive. Only two songs on this urine colored vinyl, one a Murder Junkies cover, "Bastard Son" that sounds just like you're thinking and an original "Half Evil". "Burn out, born alone, in the church of busted and cold, blues song, dirty mouth, one foot in the gutter, one fist in the face, Half evil, but all fake..." ALL HAIL DIRT AND FILTH. DUKES R.I.P. (Michael D. Williams)

Evil Army
Conquer Human 7"

Contaminated Records-www.contaminatedrecords.com

This young band from Memphis, Tennessee have been the talk of NOLA after coming down here for a number of shows here and there in the past year. An old school hardcore metal style in the vein of D.R.I. Slayer-ish early thrash that rips it out and just motherfuckin' smokes is what we have here. Four songs that hint at what the future can hold as these intense bastards break the mold and hold their own as a major destructive battering device. Thanks to Evil Army also for putting Eyehategod up on our Memphis show for this recent tour we did. It's good to see hardcore like this coming from somewhere like that and from some pissed off violent youth. More power to y'all.. (Michael D. Williams)

Frantic Attaque
s/t 7"

Die Slaughterhaus-www.dieslaughterhaus.com

Loud, upbeat, energetic early 80's style punk/hardcore from Atlanta. The lo-fi quality of the recording works well! I know this involves the vocalist for The Carbonas, but not much else. Chad (Scripts/Mangina) recommended this to me, and I'm glad I grabbed it. (Bobby Bergeron)

MUSIC REVIEWS

Genghis Tron
Cloak Of Love

Crucial Blast-www.crucialblast.net

This took a few listens for me to figure out what the hell is going on here. Apparently there is a connection between synthpop and grindcore... and Genghis Tron is that bridge. In one song you'll have a Depeche Mode type thing going, then suddenly it's an all out grindcore assault, then goes into a drum and bass thing. This gets props just for being totally original. Crazy shit. (Bobby Bergeron)

Hellshock
World Darkness 7"

Black Water Records P.O. Box 5223, Portland, OR 97208

Fuck yeah! Brutal metal-tinged crusty hardcore. Extreme Noise Terror meets Hellbastard. This band features ex-members of Tragedy, and some others that I'm not familiar with. Only 2 songs, but "Wax Statues" is one raging badass tune, complete with a riff that belongs on a Slayer album! (Bobby Bergeron)

HSML
s/t

www.hsml.tk

O.K., so when I got this, and saw that HSML stands for "Hot n' Steamy Monkey Love", I thought it was going to be some goofy shit and I kind of let it sit at the back of the review pile. This is bludgeoningly heavy sludge from the Netherlands along the lines of Iron Monkey with a dash of Motorhead thrown in. Holy shit this is great! They recently called it a day, but this album is still available. Why are you still reading? You should be searching for this cd now! (Bobby Bergeron)

I.C.E.
Apocalyptic End In White
Crash Music

O.K., so I accidentally gave The Human Kickstand the booklet to this, but the Tartharia cd, and I have the I.C.E. cd and Tartharia booklet. I'm glad I held onto this cd... this is good! Sick fucking black metal. Blasting drums and just amazing riffs backing piercing, gut wrenching screams. I don't really care for much black metal, but this is good shit! (Bobby Bergeron)

Ichabod
Reaching Empyrean
Rootsucker Records-www.rootsuckerrecords.com

Wow! This really reminds me of Only Living Witness in the beginning, then gets really weird and psychedelic, but in a good way. Heavy, downtuned stoner metal. (Bobby Bergeron)

Jesu
s/t
Hydra Head-www.hydrahead.com

Justin Broadrick writes music that delves deep into the soul. Like his previous work in Godflesh, Jesu is slow, heavy, emotionally wrenching music that gives me chills. Melodic emotional, effect-laden vocals with layered, churning, crushing music. Fucking amazing. You are simply worthless if you don't recognize Justin Broadrick as a musical genius. (Bobby Bergeron)

Jigsore Terror
World End Carnage
Listenable Records-www.listenable.net

straightforward death metal from Sweden. They threw in some grind influence but are mostly pretty standard death metal. heavy, fast, aggressive, Jigsore Terror. All of the songs start to sound the same after a while but whatever, not many death metal fans will mind. Pick it up if you've got nothing better to do, maybe after a while they will release something with a little bit more versatility. (Angela)



Jumbo's Killcrane
The Slow Decay
Crucial Blast-www.crucialblast.com

I realize that I'm probably gonna catch a lot of shit for this review but I could give a shit less about the personal opinions of a bunch of junkies, degenerates, and faggots. I tried to like this CD a lot (don't get me wrong it definitely has it's moments), but I think the main reason I was so disappointed is that it didn't live up to the hype that was built up around it. I was expecting this epic powerhouse of an album and when I finally heard it, it just seemed to me like I was getting a more psychedelic version of Weedeater. The music is pretty solid but it really didn't tickle my grundle. Definitely a talented band though. - THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Kajun SS
\$40 Quartet
Die Slaughterhaus-www.dieslaughterhaus.com

This is a "super group" of sorts, featuring Louie and Jason formerly of the Persuaders, Chad from The Scripts, and Paul from Die Rotzz. With a line-up of this caliber, you know what you're getting.... raw, dirty punk ROCK! (Bobby Bergeron)

Kajun SS
s/t LP
Therapeutic Records
Jeth Row Records-http://members.cox.net/chadlooks

O.K., so this one-sided 45 RPM 12" had an obscenely low number of these pressed... like 600 or something, and it's now out-of-print so this review is to pretty much brag that I own one of these, and YOU don't. You snooze, you lose... loser. Down and dirty bar room punk ROCK from NOLA's filthiest. (Bobby Bergeron)

Kaliban
The Tempest Of Thoughts
Crash Music-www.crashmusic.com

Yawn. Huh, what? Oh shit I fell asleep. This European style of melodic metal seems to be the fuckin' rate these days. I guess like that band 'In Flames' or something with keyboards, female backing vocals etc. To me this is god awful. The absolute only thing I do like about this is the Iron Maiden double lead noodling, but then the losenge needin' singer coughs back in the picture, chompin out some vague-ass esoteric lyrics that seem to flow in a positive vibe direction. This just bored me to take a nap. Not my glass o' sweet tea. (Michael D. Williams)

Konkave
Idiocy Mode
Damaged Productions-www.damagedproductions.com

God Damn.....I am slowly becoming the King of the Bad Review through no fault of my own. The blame lies squarely on the shoulders of the pole smokers who pollute my brain with their shit. This album is not worthy of scraping the shit out of my chiseled muscular ass. The singer reminds me of a mix between Rick ta Life (25 ta life, Comin Correct) and John Morrow (Iron Monkey, My War) but doesn't quite pull it off because his balls haven't dropped yet. The music is mindless chugga-chugga shit with a couple of hammer ons and breakdowns thrown in here and there. These guys need to get their dicks out of their sister's assholes and go live in the mountains where they can no longer pollute the world with this garbage.- THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Kylesa
To Walk A Middle Course
Prosthetic-www.prostheticrecords.com

Kylesa plays crusty metal with mellow breaks and screamy dual male/female vocals. The production (courtesy of Alex Newport of Fudge Tunnel fame) is a bit cleaner this time around, really bringing out the vocals in the band, and making every single note audible. This took a couple of listens to really soak it all in, but this is yet another great Kylesa album. (Bobby Bergeron)

MUSIC REVIEWS

Man In Shackles/Sewn Shut
Split 7"

Sounds Of Betrayal

Throw me a washcloth 'cos this may sting a little bit, your father may never have what we would call a human face... OK-now that that's out of the way, let's talk about this record.

Man In Shackles are the standout of the duo here. A serious Disrupt/Extreme Noise Terror feel except more erratic, and believe it or not, faster overall. Two vocalists seal that deal and solidify these Swedes into a not too typical/original crust formula.

Sewn Shut, I think are also straight outta Sweden and play around with the guitar work a lot more than the aforementioned band, making this more interesting but not necessarily better. Same deal with the two vocalists, but one of these guys has a super low guttural thing going on that is completely buried in the mix, therefore giving these cats the shaft in the American Idol run-offs (Michael D. Williams)

Melt Banana

13 Hedgehogs (MxBx Singles 1994-1999)

A-Zap Records

As the title suggests, this is a collection of early Melt Banana singles dating from 1994 to 1999. Noisy thrash-y experimental punk with high pitched squealing vocals. You either love or hate this band. Total aural cacophony. (Bobby Bergeron)

Monarch

Tragedy Holds The Hands Of Hope

PopAction-www.popaction.com

A better name for this CD would have been "MAYBE THIS GENERIC SOUNDING TITLE WILL HIDE THE FACT THAT WE SUCK". I am torn as to where to begin describing the many reasons why i disliked this CD. First off, the production is horrible (which is forgivable as long as there is quality musicianship to make up for it). The vocals are way too loud (which is very punishing considering that the singer sounds like he's gargling with a mouthful of man gravy), the guitars are incredibly muffled, and the drum levels just plain suck. Secondly, these guys are so god damn predictable it makes me sick. They start with a generic riff that dances around a little and then heads straight into chugga chugga territory. As I said before, the vocals are horrid. this guy sounds like he's trying to cough up the baby batter that didn't quite make it all the way down. I couldn't even finish listening to this piece of utter garbage. My idea of hell is waking up in bed with Rosie O Donnell while this CD is stuck on repeat. -THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Mouth Of The Architect

Time And Withering

Translation Loss-www.translationloss.com

This is the album that my friends wish that I would shut the fuck up about. Mouth of the Architect are absolutely stellar. Formed out of the ashes of Dayton, Ohio's Rune, MOTA have made (In my opinion) one of the finest recordings to come out in the past decade. Consisting of 4 songs but clocking in at a respectable 42 minutes, "Time and Withering" unforgivingly beats the fuck out the listener. The music alone conveys a truckload of emotion before a single word is uttered (something that is very scarce in today's music). The best way to describe their sound is progressive ambient doom somewhat akin to a mix of Neurosis and Rwake. The music is some of the most sad and beautiful sounds I have ever heard and then the vocals hit you like a brick to the face. The standout track on this CD (hard as hell to pick) would probably be the one that closes the album. "The Worm" is an 11 minute powerhouse that begins with a revolving riff that seems to change shape throughout the duration of the song. At about 7 and a half minutes into the song, the vocals come in and blow you away. ABSOLUTELY STELLAR. I really would like to give this CD the Mushroom Stamp but i am hesitant for fear of having my penis turned to gold. -THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Myon

Ghost In Paradise

Crash Music

Oh god, this is HORRIBLE. I'd rather hit myself in the groin with a sledgehammer than be subject to this crap ever again. Boring cheesy power-metal. (Bobby Bergeron)



Never Heard Of It

11 Days

Unmotivated Records

Damn Bobby, what is this? Why, man? You can guarantee I'm selling this one! Pop (dare I say) punk sell-out emo shit like New Found Glory or (cough, hack) Good Charlotte. There's no place for this in Paranoize except to completely trash it. I hold a special grudge against this stuff. For one thing, it ALL sounds alike, very predictable and done a million times. This crap is the farthest thing from what punk is supposed to be about. I challenge this band to a fist fight for no apparent reason. (Michael D. Williams)

Raising Kubrick

The Important Thing Is Moral Choice

Not Common-www.notcommonrecords.com

These kids, well I don't know if they are really kids, are crusty and mean. The vocals are way too loud in the mix. The music is fast and full of treble with some melodies in there and real dirty vocals...kind of like Eyehategod and Cattle Decapitation beating squirrels together. It's cute, but not outstanding. (Angela)

Red Letter-"M"

s/t

www.redletterterm.com

The only thing gayer than the horrible excuse for music that these rump rangers regurgitate onto the world.....is the gay ass picture on the inlay. These guys look like they spend their free time donkey punching each other and sprinkling glitter on their pubes. They sound like they want to rip off Coheed and Cambria, but they're afraid they cant live up to the tough lumberjack image that people associate with Coheed. I strongly recommend that these guys and all of their fans kill themselves so as not to poison the gene pool. -THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Retching Red

Get Your Red Wings

Bleeding Bitch Records

Aww, holy crud.. what in the fuckin' name of Spock's ears is with these band names?!? I mean face it, it's hard to be original these days, but to me, this is just silly as hell. I think you get the references here. Band name, album title, even the record label are alluding to one 5th grade sense of humor. Oh yeah, they have a girl singer with bright red hair. Conceptual geniuses or fucking dumbasses, you be the judge. Anyhow, this is East Bay punk rock. (Surprised?) This section of the East Bay being Oakland, CA. Crustified punk rawk, not super fast but fast enough to ride the throttle and put a hurtin' on those who listen. They do a cover of Seattle band The Gits, who Retching Red kinda sound like a nastier version of, but with complete shit lyrics (unlike The Gits who wrote with some intelligence). Average. (Michael D. Williams)

Rwake

If You Walk Before You Crawl You Crawl Before You Die

At A Loss Recordings-www.atalossrecordings.com

Some of the most amazing sludge/doom to ever grace your ears. If you don't own this by now you're a total fucking idiot. What the hell is wrong with you? Maiden-style guitar harmonies mixed with crushing doom-y passages and somber acoustic sections. Dual male/female screamed/shrieked vocals, samples, moog organ, and like I just fucking told you, stellar guitarwork. If you've seen this band live the last couple of times they've played here, you know what I'm talking about. If you haven't, redeem yourself and pick this up NOW. (Bobby Bergeron)

MUSIC REVIEWS



Searing Meadow
Corroding From The Inside
Crash Music

This CD is pretty tolerable. It is definitely nothing special. They almost remind me of Dark Tranquility. The production is good as has come to be expected from most Euro style metal offerings. If you're one of those people who love Swede-style metal, it may be worth checking out. - THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Selfish
Cause Pain
Feral Ward-www.feralward.com

80's style hardcore done fuckin' RIGHT. Fast, angry and full of energy, with a very obvious early Agnostic Front influence. It's good to see bands are still playing this style and doing it well. (Bobby Bergeron)

Snack Truck
Harpoon
Perpetual Motion Machine

Although I did like the John Zorn Naked City stuff with ya boy Y.Eye of the Boredoms, most bands that dive head first into the jazz grind pool of sub-New York Knitting Factory hoopla have yet to strike a nerve and/or move my bowels to full evacuation. Snack Truck (bands today just DO NOT care about what they call themselves it seems!) do that thing that they do well enough to be called well enough. It's just background chatter, albeit chaotic nitro thrashing mad background chatter. It's basically instrumental throughout since the manic vocals are used not in the old timey "singing" way but like the aforementioned Naked City, to chip and yelp up a storm. To summarize" I hope there are drugs involved, it just seems a lot funner that way. (Michael D. Williams)

Sun Of Nothing
...and voices words faces complete the dream
Damaged Productions-www.damagedproductions.net

From Greece comes Sun Of Nothing... a noisy beast mixing noise, sludge and black metal elements. Sick. (Bobby Bergeron)

Suplecs
Powtin' On The Outside, Pawty On The Inside
Nocturnal Records-www.nocturnal-records.com

Suplecs return once again with another slab of just flat-out damn good stoner rock. My only gripe with this is the clean vocals. What the fuck is up with that? They do NOT sound like this live. If you've heard the demo version of "Gotta Pain" (which is on the Paranoize Recordings compilation, "Trying Is The First Step Towards Failure"... shameless plug) you'll hear what Suplecs is supposed to sound like. Either way, pick this up... the vocals aren't too bad after a few listens. (Bobby Bergeron)

The Dead See
Beyond The Lake Of Sleep
www.myspace.com/thedeadsee

This is Neil from Dolores's new band. Heavy, noisy doom-y metal... kind of like Neurosis by way of Mastodon. Just completely devastating. Wow. There's not much more I can say to justify the awesomeness of this band. They're playing Dixie Taverne on August 6th. Be there. Buy a cd to have something to mutilate yourself to in the meantime. (Bobby Bergeron)

The Mass
City Of Dis
Crucial Blast-www.crucialblast.com

Thrash metal meets jazz. Pretty interesting stuff going on here. Horn sections mixed in with intricate riffing and vocals ranging from shrieks to growls. King Crimson meets Slayer. Not bad. (Bobby Bergeron)

Throclut
Stormbringer
Crash Music

Three words- GENERIC BLACK METAL. This may appeal to 32 year old virgin, level 10 Dungeon Masters who still live in their mother's garage, wear corpse paint every day, and rename themselves after pagan war gods.-THE HUMAN KICKSTAND

Thrones
Day Late, Dollar Short
Southern Lord-www.southernlord.com

This is a collection of rarities and previously unreleased tracks from older sessions, etc. I'm not familiar with Thrones, but I am familiar with other projects involving Joe Preston, such as Earth, the Melvins and currently High On Fire. Some of this is heavy and plodding, some is just totally bizarre. Keep an open mind if you're going to even consider buying this. (Bobby Bergeron)

Various Artists
Base Camp 001
Camp Fury Records-www.campfuryrecords.com

This compilation covers quite a few bands in the overlooked New Orleans metalcore scene (In Tomorrow's Shadow, This Side Down, Organized Hostility, Skindeep, and Aggro-Fate) plus bands from other parts of the country (Assisted Suicide Assembly, Continent Of Ash, Self Inflicted, etc.) A damn fine compilation of just good, heavy music. I bought this for \$5.00 at a show... great price and an excellent cd. Support your local record labels! (Bobby Bergeron)

Want your music reviewed in Paranoize? Send your cd/vinyl/cassette to:
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All reviews are the OPINION of the individual reviewer. If you are offended by any of the OPINIONS expressed here, grab a tissue and get on with your life.



NEW ORLEANS SCENE REPORT

Antarctica Vs. The World (horror punk) will be going on tour starting July 22nd. www.antarcticavstheworld.net

Apartment 213 (metal!) are finally recording a full-length cd. www.myspace.com/apartment213

Arma (from Lafayette..ex-Icepick Revival/Pigknuckle/One Common Voice) have changed their name to **Hooves** (yes, like cow feet). Ryan has a new shoulder and should be back to killing it by the time this goes to print. www.myspace.com/hoovestheband

Collapsar's (Lafayette instrumental metal) full length (out now on Escape Artist Records) has been getting good reviews, and will be going on tour July 22nd, hitting Little Rock, AR, Louisville, KY, Indianapolis, IN and Memphis, TN. www.myspace.com/collapsar

Eyehategod (sludgecore/doom) just finished 30 something dates in the mid-west and east coast in support of the latest cd release "Preaching the End Time Message." Near future plans include a west coast tour slotted for Sept/Oct, and then home to write the next studio full length. www.eyehategod.com

Face First (punk/hardcore) have, since the interview in this issue, picked up a new drummer. www.myspace.com/facefirstignorantassholes

Hawg Jaw (sludgecore) will have a new cd out this fall on Throne Records (Spain). This one has 13 new tracks recorded and engineered by Josh Crapo (Sour Vein). It will be released on vinyl by a U.S. label shortly after the cd release. Near future projects include a split cd with Fistula, a split 7" with Sour Vein, and a split cd with Italy's Grimness. www.hawgjaw.com

In Tomorrow's Shadow (metalcore) have their debut cd out now, titled "Displaying The Elegy". They will be releasing a follow up e.p. by the end of the year. www.myspace.com/intomorrowshadow

Outlaw Order (sludge/doom) s about to record a 6 song cd ep by mid July. No definite label yet, but Crash And Burn Cartel distribution/records looks like a good label. After this, plans to record a full length studio recording are in the works. coming soon: outlaworder.com

Sleeper Cell (black metal/sludge) have just finished recording, and should have a demo by the time this goes to print. Brent has moved back to town, so they no longer have bass issues and they plan on playing as much as possible. www.myspace.com/sleepercel



A Hunger Artist



Suplecs (stoner rock) will be going on the road with Gwar for a few shows in August. www.suplecs.com

This Side Down (metalcore) will be recording their new cd titled "Her Last Words" in mid-July, with a September release date. www.thissidedown.com

This was all that was submitted as news for this issue. Other bands that I've checked out lately are:

Rise Above: An 80's hardcore tribute band featuring former members of Soilent Green, Haate, Elimination and Suckhole. Their set includes songs by Black Flag (lots of Black Flag!) D.R.I., Misfits, Discharge, and more! They're playing July 23rd at Howlin' Wolf, so check 'em out!

Dirtnap: Metal with a bit of hardcore seeping in.. like a cross between Machine Head and Hatebreed. www.myspace.com/dirtnap

Snake Oiler: Heavy stoner rock along the lines of early Fu Manchu. Dixie Tavern's old p.a. couldn't handle the rock! www.myspace.com/snakeoiler

Sufferstream: Euro-style death/thrash/black metal. Tight band, good stuff. www.myspace.com/sufferstreammetal

Take 'Em Down: Death/thrash metal. New vocalist, no bassist yet. www.myspace.com/takeemdown

Uptown Ofays: Ex-members of The Headwoundz, The Macgillicuddys, Shell Shock and The Turds doing. They just ROCK!

A Hunger Artist: ex-members of Dear Diary I Seem To Be Dead, Hatchback and Gathered Here playing loud, discordant rock. www.myspace.com/ahungerartist

The Pallbearers: Fast, pissed, sick punk/hardcore with songs about horror and flatulence. www.terroroptics.com/

If your band was left out, it wasn't intentional... to keep me posted on what's going on with your band drop me a line at paranoize@hotmail.com



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